



Mississippi Labor Market

Tracking Mississippi's Workforce

March 2004

Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment

	Feb 04	Jan 04	Feb 03		Feb 04	Jan 04	Feb 03
	Preliminary	Revised	Revised		Preliminary	Revised	Revised
Total Nonfarm Employed	1,113.3	1,109.8	1,108.7	Utilities	7.7	7.8	8.0
Natural Resources & Mining	8.4	8.6	8.3	Electric Power	5.3	5.4	5.6
Construction	47.8	48.8	51.1	Transportation & Warehousing	35.5	36.1	37.7
Manufacturing	177.7	176.3	180.2	Warehousing & Storage	7.6	7.5	8.3
Durable Goods	114.2	112.9	113.9	Information	14.6	14.6	15.3
Wood Products	12.7	12.5	13.4	Telecommunications	7.9	7.9	8.2
Saw mill- Wood Preservation	5.6	5.6	5.7	Finance & Insurance	34.6	34.4	34.1
Primary Metals	2.6	2.5	2.8	Credit Intermediation	21.3	21.2	21.0
Fabricated Metals	11.3	11.0	11.9	Depository Credit Intermediation	15.2	15.2	15.3
Machinery	11.4	11.3	12.6	Insurance Carriers	11.6	11.6	11.5
Ventilation - Heating - Air Condition	3.9	3.9	4.2	Real Estate & Rental	12.0	11.9	11.6
Computers - Electronics	3.0	2.9	3.0	Prof., Scient., Technical Services	30.3	30.0	29.5
Electrical Equipment & Appliances	8.5	8.6	9.5	Management of Companies	9.6	10.0	10.4
Electrical Equipment	3.8	3.9	4.6	Admin Spt & Waste Management	39.9	39.4	37.2
Transportation Equipment	27.1	26.7	23.3	Education Services	14.3	13.6	14.5
Motor Vehicle Parts	6.3	6.3	7.0	Health Care & Social Assistance	102.8	102.1	100.2
Ship & Boat Building	15.2	15.0	13.6	Hospitals	30.3	30.3	29.6
Furniture	28.4	28.0	27.9	Nursing & Resident Care	20.6	20.4	19.4
Nondurable Goods	63.5	63.4	66.3	Arts, Entertainment, Recreation	12.3	12.3	12.6
Food Products	27.7	27.5	27.3	Amusements , Gambling, Recreation	11.4	11.3	11.6
Animal Slaughtering	19.7	19.6	19.6	Gambling	5.8	5.8	6.5
Apparel	5.4	5.4	5.8	Accommodation & Food Services	108.6	108.2	107.1
Paper Products	5.7	5.8	6.7	Accommodation	36.8	36.7	36.9
Pulp, Paper, Paperboard	2.2	2.2	2.9	Food Services & Drinking	71.8	71.5	70.2
Converted Paper Products	3.5	3.6	3.8	Other Services (Private)	36.5	36.1	37.3
Chemicals	5.9	5.9	7.1	Repair & Maintenance	9.8	9.7	9.9
Plastics & Rubber	9.3	9.3	9.3	Government	247.0	245.5	242.2
Wholesale Trade	36.1	35.7	34.6	Federal	25.7	25.7	25.7
Retail Trade	137.6	138.4	136.8	State	63.3	62.8	62.2
Food & Beverage Stores	19.3	19.2	19.7	State Education	23.4	22.9	22.7
Grocery Stores	17.8	17.8	17.9	Local	158.0	157.0	154.3
General Merchandise	37.7	37.7	37.5	Local Education	86.4	85.2	84.0
Department Stores	10.5	10.7	11.1				
Other General Merchandise	27.2	27.0	26.4				

NOTE: All data expressed in thousands

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Hours and Earnings for Selected Industries

	Avg Weekly Earnings			Avg. Weekly Hours			Avg. Hourly Earnings		
	Feb 04	Jan 04	Feb 03	Feb 04	Jan 04	Feb 03	Feb 04	Jan 04	Feb 03
Manufacturing	\$516.60	\$524.55	\$515.77	39.8	40.6	40.2	\$12.98	\$12.92	\$12.83
Durable Goods	547.01	556.10	535.87	40.7	41.5	41.0	13.44	13.40	13.07
Wood Products	443.72	449.82	439.85	41.9	42.0	41.3	10.59	10.71	10.65
Fabricated Metals	552.02	596.85	563.60	40.5	42.3	40.0	13.63	14.11	14.09
Machinery	563.12	566.50	544.40	40.6	41.2	42.9	13.87	13.75	12.69
Furniture	485.75	499.79	475.02	39.3	41.0	39.0	12.36	12.19	12.18
Nondurable Goods	465.35	471.94	482.75	38.3	39.1	38.9	12.15	12.07	12.41
Food Products	371.14	390.85	370.06	37.3	39.4	37.8	9.95	9.92	9.79

Comments - Unadjusted Data

- ◆ Based on employer reports, total nonagricultural wage and salary employment increased 3,500 from January and 4,600 from one year ago.
- ◆ Manufacturing showed an increase of 1,400 jobs over the month but was still 2,500 below February 2003.
- ◆ Government had the largest monthly employment increase, with 1,500 more jobs than February
- ◆ The civilian labor force grew with 4,100 more people than January. Unemployed individuals decreased 7,900 while employed individuals increased 12,000 over the month.
- ◆ The February unemployment rate decreased six-tenths of one percentage point from January.

U.S. Consumer Price Index - Base Year = 1982-84 = 100

Wage Earners & Clerical	Feb 04	Jan 04	Feb 03	Wage Earners & Clerical	Feb 04	Jan 04	Feb 03
All Items	181.9	180.9	179.2	Medical Care	305.4	302.8	293.0
Food & Beverages	184.0	183.8	178.3	Recreation / 1	106.2	105.6	105.4
Housing	182.6	182.1	178.7	Education & Communications / 1	110.0	109.8	109.2
Apparel	118.3	115.7	119.4	Other Goods & Services	310.0	309.3	306.4
Transportation	156.8	154.9	158.2	All Urban Consumers			
/ 1 Indexes on a December 1997 = 100 base				All Items	186.2	185.2	183.1

Mississippi Labor Force

(Data based on Place of Residence - Expressed in Thousands)

	Feb 04	Jan 04	Feb 03		Feb 04	Jan 04	Feb 03
	Prelim.	Revised	Revised		Prelim.	Revised	Revised
	(Not Seasonally Adjusted)				(Seasonally Adjusted)		
Labor Force	1,311.7	1,307.6	1,298.7	Labor Force	1,313.9	1,311.6	1,300.7
Unemployed	73.2	81.1	82.9	Unemployed	72.8	74.5	82.3
Rate	5.6%	6.2%	6.4%	Rate	5.5%	5.7%	6.3%
Employed	1,238.5	1,226.5	1,215.8	Employed	1,241.1	1,237.1	1,218.4
U.S. Rate	6.0%	6.3%	6.4%	U.S. Rate	5.6%	5.6%	5.9%

Data compiled by Mississippi Department of Employment Security, Labor Market Information Department,
in cooperation with U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics